GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2993
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
Appadurai Shri M.;Athawale Shri Ramdas;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Meinya Dr. Thokchom;Pathak Shri Brajesh;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fighter, trainer aircraft and helicopters met with accidents during the current year;

(b) the loss of lives and property suffered as a result thereof and compensation paid in each case;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry to find out the reasons for each accident;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) In the current year i.e. from 1st January, 2006 till date, a total number of 3 aircraft (2 fighter and 1 trainer) of the Indian Air Force (IAF) have met with accidents. There was no aircraft accident in the Army and Navy during the above period.

(b) In these accidents, 4 pilots have lost their lives. However, there was no loss to the civil property. The compensation to the next of the kin is paid as per the rules.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Two accidents occurred due to human error (one on fighter and one on trainer) and one due to technical defect on fighter.

(e) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Defence Forces to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufactures (OEMs), both indigenous and foreign, are also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.